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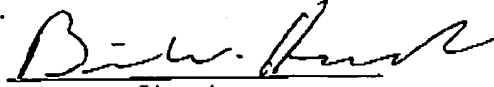
Certification under 37 CFR 1.8b

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on December 22, 2006.

Brian W. Hameder

Name

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Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Tomoaki ABE et al.)
SERIAL NO: 10/527,637) Group Art Unit: 3673
FILED: May 18, 2005) Examiner: Vishal A. Patel
TITLE: Oil Ring

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated November 28, 2006 having a shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on December 28, 2006.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner made a restriction requirement, under 35 U.S.C. §121, between five separate species. The Applicant elects Species I which includes Figures 1, 2 and 7. The restriction requirement indicates that Species I requires that the oil ring have a sliding projection having two tapered surfaces that are joined by a curved surface. Each of the independent Claims 7 and 8 seem to read on this elected species. Thus, each of the dependent Claims 9-16 should read on this elected species.

In light of the foregoing response, all the outstanding objections and rejections are considered overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that this application should now be in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

December 22, 2006

Date



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